

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 re pending in this application. Claims 1-15 and 20 have been amended to better define the invention without the introduction of any new matter. Note, for example, the specification at page 4, lines 6-15 as to the added subject matter of Claim 1.

The outstanding Office Action includes a rejection of Claims 6-20 as being indefinite under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 and a rejection of Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Belotserkoven et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,453,210, Belotserkoven).

It is believed that the rejection of Claims 6-20 as being indefinite under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 on page 2 of the outstanding Office Action is not applicable to amended Claims 1-15 and 20 that address and correct the points noted in this rejection. With further regard to the assertion that Claim 18 lacks proper and clear antecedent basis for the “program,” this assertion is traversed because Claim 18 depends on Claim 13 that clearly recites only one “program” in terms of reciting “storing a program.”

In any event, if the Examiner believes that further formal changes to any part of the Application are required, he is invited to contact Applicants’ representative at the below-indicated telephone number so that mutually agreeable formal changes can be agreed upon.

Turning to the rejection of Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Belotserkoven, it is noted that Belotserkoven merely teaches that the control program

that is downloaded into the PLC at boot-up is written such that machines connected to the PLC may operate independently from the ICA during a selected number of dip cycles, see the Abstract, for example. Neither this disclosure nor the disclosure relied upon as to FIG. 1 and columns 6-12 of Belotserkoven reasonably teach or suggest the base independent Claim 1 requirement for a “control means for controlling the terminal device, by using a terminal control function that accords with the terminal device and personal user data peculiar to a separate user terminal.” If the Examiner disagrees, he is respectfully requested to point to the location of the particular parts of Belotserkoven that are believed to teach or suggest such subject matter as required by 37 CFR § 1.104(c)(2).

Accordingly, as Claims 6-5 all include this limitation (Claims 2-5 by virtue of depending from Claim 1), the rejection thereof over Belotserkoven is traversed.

In addition, the rejection of Claims 2-5 over Belotserkoven is further traversed because each of these claims adds features that are also not reasonably taught of fairly suggested by Belotserkoven.

With further regard to the rejection of Claims 6-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Belotserkoven, it is noted that Belotserkoven does not reasonably teach or fairly suggest the basic subject matter of each of independent base Claims 6, 9, 11, 13, and 20 requiring that a terminal device be controlled by a terminal device control function that is provided from a different terminal apparatus in communication with the terminal device based on terminal information that is provided by the terminal device to the terminal apparatus. Again, if the Examiner disagrees, he is respectfully

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requested to point to the location of the particular parts of Belotserkove that are believed to teach or suggest such subject matter as required by 37 CFR § 1.104(c)(2).

As Claims 7 and 8 depend from Claim 6, Claim 10 depends from Claim 9, Claim 12 depends from Claim 11, and Claims 14-19 depend from Claim 13, the rejection of these dependent claims over Belotserkoven is further traversed because of the reasons set forth above as to their respective parent claims.

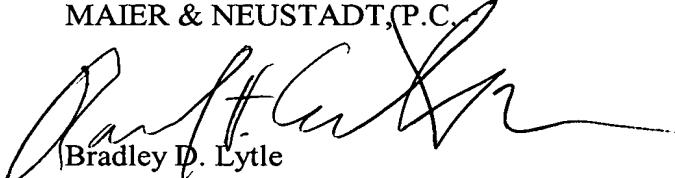
In addition, the rejection of Claims 7, 8, 10, 12, and 14-19 over Belotserkoven is further traversed because each of these claims adds features that are also not reasonably taught of fairly suggested by Belotserkoven.

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As no further issues are believed to remain outstanding in the present application, it is believed that this application is clearly in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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